

Appln No. 09/606,692

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment under 37 CFR 1.121(b) is respectfully requested to properly identify the subject application relative to the parent application No. 09/479,235. A marked-up version indicating the additions (shown by underlining) and deletions (shown by bracketing) is attached.

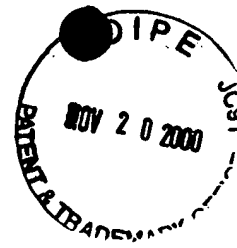
Respectfully submitted,



Leon R. Turkevich
Registration No. 34,035

Customer Number 23164
2000 M Street, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20036-3307
(202) 261-1059
Date: November 20, 2000
Facsimile (202) 887-0336

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SCALABLE VOICE OVER IP SYSTEM PROVIDING INDEPENDENT CALL BRIDGING
FOR OUTBOUND CALLS INITIATED BY USER INTERFACE APPLICATIONS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of commonly-assigned, copending application No. 09/479,235, filed January 7, 2000 (attorney docket 95-421), the disclosure of which is incorporated in its entirety herein by reference. [This application claims priority from commonly-assigned, copending application No. 09/479,235, filed January 7, 2000 (attorney docket 95-421), the disclosure of which is incorporated in its entirety herein by reference.]

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to systems configured for providing advanced telephony-type services for subscribers in a voice over Internet Protocol (IP) network according to H.323 protocol.

DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

The evolution of the public switched telephone network has resulted in a variety of voice applications and services that can be provided to individual subscribers and business subscribers. Such services include voice messaging systems that enable landline or wireless subscribers to record, playback, and forward voice mail messages. However, the ability to provide enhanced services to subscribers of the public switched telephone network is directly affected by the limitations of the public switched telephone network. In particular, the public switched telephone network operates according to a protocol that is specifically designed for the transport of voice signals; hence any modifications necessary to provide enhanced services can only be done by switch vendors that have sufficient know-how of the existing public switched telephone network infrastructure. Hence, the reliance on proprietary protocols and closed development environments by telecommunications equipment providers has limited service providers to vendor-specific implementations of voice and telephony services.

